

The House Committee on Transportation offers the following substitute to SR 19:

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Georgia Commission on Freight and Logistics; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the current and future economic health of Georgia relies on a thriving and
3 productive freight industry; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Georgia needs a comprehensive, strategic business plan to develop state-wide
5 freight and logistics infrastructure in order for this state to remain economically competitive;
6 and
- 7 WHEREAS, it is important to study and assess the needs for and means of providing for a
8 system of freight and logistics investment projects and priorities in this state; and
- 9 WHEREAS, study is needed to determine the best course of action with regard to funding
10 and policy development relating to freight and logistics to ensure that action taken over the
11 next several years will result in the growth and support of this important industry; and
- 12 WHEREAS, it is important that such study further emphasize creating efficiency and
13 coordination among providers of freight and logistics and offer solutions to improve mobility
14 across this state; and
- 15 WHEREAS, such study may analyze the benefits of developing alternative freight routes as
16 a means of improving regional transportation and transportation throughout this state; and
- 17 WHEREAS, subject to availability of funds from the budget of the Senate and the House of
18 Representatives, such study may include a contract for the provision of private consulting
19 and any other services deemed necessary for purposes of addressing the areas identified in
20 this resolution; and

WHEREAS, any professionals retained to assist in analysis or consultation pursuant to this resolution shall be professionals in freight and logistics analysis, with global or national prominence in the following areas:

- (1) Experience working with multiple freight and logistics providers;
- (2) Experience delivering freight and logistics strategy for multijurisdictional or state-wide entities;
- (3) Strong financial consulting practices that have applicability to multiple funding or financial approaches for freight and logistics;
- (4) Approaches to promoting economic development; and
- (5) Demonstrated knowledge and proven experience in strategic development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

(1) **Creation of joint commission.** There is created the Georgia Commission on Freight and Logistics.

(2) **Members and officers.** The commission shall consist of the following members:

(A) Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including the chairperson of the Senate Transportation Committee;

(B) Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, including the chairperson of the House Committee on Transportation;

(C) Three members appointed by the President of the Senate who represent entities which provide freight and logistics services; possess expertise in the operations of a major airport hub; or lead a major commodity shipper, major air shipping provider, or major manufacturing operation based in this state;

(D) Three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives who represent entities which provide freight and logistics services; possess expertise in the operations of a major airport hub; or lead a major commodity shipper, major air shipping provider, or major manufacturing operation based in this state;

(E) Four members who each serve as a local government official, with two appointed by the President of the Senate and two appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(F) The executive director of the Georgia Municipal Association or his or her designee;

(G) The executive director of the Association County Commissioners of Georgia or his or her designee;

(H) The president or chairperson of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce;

(I) The president or chairperson of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce;

(J) The commissioner of transportation, ex officio; and

(K) The executive director of the Georgia Ports Authority, ex officio.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate shall each select a member to serve as cochairpersons of the commission.

(3) **Powers and duties.** The commission shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or legislation which the commission deems necessary or appropriate.

(4) **Meetings.** The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the commission. The commission may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

(5) **Allowances, expenses, and funding.**

(A) The legislative members of the commission shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.

(B) Members of the commission who are state officials, other than legislative members, or state employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the commission, but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties as members of the commission in the same manner as they are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as state officials or employees.

(C) Members of the commission who are not legislators, state officials, or state employees shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state employees.

(D) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member of the commission for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds appropriated to the Senate and the House of Representatives; except that funds for the reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative members, and state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise available to their respective agencies.

(6) **Report.**

(A) In the event the commission adopts any specific findings or recommendations that include suggestions for proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file a report of the same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

(B) In the event the commission adopts a report that does not include suggestions for proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file the report, subject to subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

(C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the commission. A report so approved shall be signed by the cochairpersons of the commission and filed with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

(D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the commission in lieu thereof.

(7) **Abolishment.** The commission shall submit the report and proposal required by paragraph (6) not later than December 31, 2019, at which time such proposal shall be published and the commission shall stand abolished.